

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ROME 19920 052133Z
ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-08 NEA-07 ISO-00 SS-07 NSC-06 AID-01
/033 W

-----060014 060505Z /20

R 051540Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8981
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMCONSUL MONTREAL
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 19920

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EAIR, PINS, IT
SUBJECT: SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE STAFFDEL VISIT ON
HIJACKING AND TERRORISM

REF: (A) ROME 19198; (B) STATE 279081

1. IN CALL ON MINISTRY OF INTERIOR/FRONTIER POLICE OFFICIAL,
STAFFDEL QUESTIONS ON RESPONSE THAT COULD BE EXPECTED
FROM (A) U.S. ISSUANCE OF ADVISORIES TO U.S. TRAVELLING
PUBLIC ON SECURITY CONDITIONS ABROAD OR AT CERTAIN AIRPORTS
AND (B) OUR USE OF OTHER SANCTIONS AGAINST COUNTRIES THAT
AIDED AND ABETTED TERRORISTS OR FAILED TO MAINTAIN ADEQUATE
SECURITY STANDARDS AT AIRPORTS WENT LARGELY UNANSWERED.
DIRECTOR OF FRONTIER POLICE, INSTEAD, DEFENSIVELY MAINTAINED
SECURITY SYSTEMS IN OPERATION AT ITALIAN AIRPORTS WERE FAR
SUPERIOR TO THOSE EXISTING OR NOT EXISTING IN MANY OTHER
COUNTRIES. HE SPECIFICALLY CITED SPAIN AS HAVING LOW
STANDARDS AND AS A SOURCE OF TERRORIST TROUBLES FOR ITALY.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ROME 19920 052133Z

HE SHOWED STAFFDEL 1974 FAA REPORT PRAISING IMPROVED
SECURITY SYSTEMS AT FIUMICINO AIRPORT (ROME). STAFFDEL
RESPONDED THAT SECURITY SYSTEMS AT MAIN ITALIAN AIRPORTS
MIGHT BE VERY GOOD, BUT THAT NEVERTHELESS, IMPLEMENTATION
OF THOSE SYSTEMS MIGHT NOT BE SO GOOD AS ITALY FREQUENTLY
MENTIONED IN WASHINGTON AS ONE OF SEVERAL COUNTRIES THAT
DO NOT MAINTAIN TIGHT OR EFFECTIVE PREVENTIVE SECURITY.

ONLY NEW SECURITY MEASURE FRONTIER POLICE OFFICIAL
INDICATED ITALY ABOUT TO TAKE WAS CREATION OF STRIKE TEAM
FOLLOWING FRG EXAMPLE.

2. STAFFDEL'S QUESTIONS TO MFA OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE FOR
MID-EAST AND NORTH AFRICAN AFFAIRS ELECITIED RESPONSE THAT
SANCTIONS AGAINST LIBYA NOT LIKELY TO BE EFFECTIVE BECAUSE
OF THE FINANCIAL STRENGTH OF THE COUNTRY AND THE PROBABLE
UNWILLINGNESS OF MANY COUNTIRES TO APPLY SUCH SANCTIONS TO
LIBYA. HE SURMISED THAT WHILE USSR RELATIONS WITH LIBYA
CURRENTLY NOT CLOSE, HEAVY WESTERN SANCTIONS AGAINST LIBYA
COULD DRIVE IT AND USSR INTO CLOSER COLLABORATIONS. HE
SAID LIBYA WAS IN BETTER POSITION TO APPLY PRESSURE ON
ITALY THAN VICE VERSA MAINLY DUE TO EXTENSIVE ITALIAN
INVESTMENTS IN LIBYA AND, SECONDARILY, DUE TO ITALY'S
DEPENDENCE ON LIBYAN OIL. (HE SEEMED TO THINK EMBARGO OF
LIBYAN OIL TO ITALY WOULD CAUSE ONLY TEMPORARY DIFFICULTY
AND HE DID NOT MENTION RECENT HUGE LIBYAN GOVERNMENT
INVESTMENT IN FIAT.) MFA OFFICIAL SAID U.S. IN BEST
POSITION TO EXERCISE LEVERAGE AGAINST LIBYA BECAUSE
"U.S. COMPANIES' OIL PURCHASES ARE SO LARGE."

3. STAFFDEL ASKED SECRETARY GENERAL OF ITALIAN FEDERATION
OF HOTEL ASSOCIATIONS (FEDERAZIONE DELLE ASSOCIAZIONI
ITALIANCE ALBERGHI E TURISMO) WHETHER SANCTIONS, SUCH AS
ISSUANCE ADVISORY NOTICES (AS DESCRIBED PARA 1) WOULD
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 ROME 19920 052133Z

HELP OFFICIALS TO MAINTAIN TIGHT SECURITY AT MAIN ITALIAN
AIRPORTS. SECRETARY GENERAL GAVE HIS OPINION THAT SUCH
NOTICES WOULD EXERT PRESSURE ON GOI TO IMPROVE SECURITY
DISCIPLINE. HE SIAD PRESIDENT OF HOTEL FEDERATION,
TOGETHER WITH SMALL DELEGATION OF FEDERATION OFFICIALS,
PLANNED TO CALL ON PRIME MINISTER ANDREOTTI WITHIN A FEW
DAYS AND THAT THEY WOULD RAISE QUESTION OF U.S. CONGRESSIONAL
CONCERNS ABOUT ITALIAN AIRPORT SECURITY, AS WELL AS THEIR
OWN FEARS THAT U.S. TOURISM TO ITALY COULD BE ADVERSELY
AFFECTED, IN EFFORT TO IMPROVE SECURITY PERFORMANCE AT
MAIN AIRPORTS. GARDNER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, COMMITTEES, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 05-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ROME19920
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770451-0682
Format: TEL
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771293/aaaadayb.tel
Line Count: 105
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: ce12bc0b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION H
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 ROME 19198, 77 STATE 279081
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 360318
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE STAFFDEL VISIT ON HIJACKING AND TERRORISM
TAGS: EAIR, PINS, IT, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/ce12bc0b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009